

REMARKS

Amendments to the Specification:

The first paragraph of the as-filed specification is being amended to correct a typographic error in the filing date of Provisional Patent Application 60/185,056.

Amendments to the Claims and Response to the Restriction Requirement:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed January 4, 2006, Applicants have canceled all previously submitted claims and have submitted new claims 21-37. By such amendment, Applicants have reduced the number and simplified the organization of the claims. Support for the new claims is found at pages 14 and 101 of the specification. Specifically, new claims 21-28 are drawn generally to a protein complex of PRAK and ERK3 and new claims 29-37 are drawn to the use of such complex in selecting modulators of these protein complexes. It is believed that as a result of the present Amendment, the Restriction Requirement of January 4, 2006 has been obviated and all of claims 21-37 can be examined together.

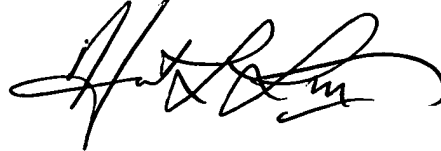
However, to expedite the prosecution of the instant application, in the event that the Examiner requires a restriction between the product claims 21-28 and the method of use claims 29-37, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the product claims 21-28, and reserve their right to have the process claims rejoined when the product claims are allowed, in accordance with the provisions of M.P.E.P. §821.04.

Applicants hereby declare that the new claims are fully supported by the as-filed specification, and add no new matter to the Application. It is believed that all of the new claims are in condition for allowance. Early examination of the claims on the merits and prompt issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/690,276
Amdt. dated February 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2006

It is believed that no additional time extensions or fees are required for the filing of this response. If this is incorrect, an extension of time as deemed necessary is hereby requested, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees or deficiency, or to credit any over payment, to Deposit Account no. **50-1627**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Herbert L. Ley III', written in a cursive style.

Herbert L. Ley III, Ph.D.
Registration No. 53,215

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Intellectual Property Department
Myriad Genetics, Inc.
(Customer No. 26698)
320 Wakara Way
Salt Lake City, UT 84108
Telephone: 801-584-3600
Fax: 801-883-3871

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